

Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /078 W
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R 300539Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8631

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

COMUSMACT BKK TH

UNCLAS BANGKOK 15493

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, US

SUBJ: UPI STORY ON KHUKRIT STATEMENT RE
MILITARY AGREEMENTS WITH U.S.

REF : STATE 178896 (NOTAL)

1. THE FOLLOWING ARE USIS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATIONS OF
EXCERPTS FROM PRIME MINISTER KHUKRIT PRAMOT'S NEWS
CONFERENCE HELD UPON HIS ARRIVAL FROM SINGAPORE AT DON
MUANG AIRPORT ON 27 JULY 1975:

BEGIN EXCERPT

REPORTER: WILL THE PHASING OUT AND LIQUIDATION OF SEATO
NOT HAVE REPERCUSSIONS ON THE THANAT KHOMAN-DEAN RUSK
JOINT STATEMENT?

KHUKRIT: I DON'T KNOW WHAT AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED.

REPORTER: IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY THE TWO COUNTRIES
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WILL GIVE EACH OTHER MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

KHUKRIT: I DON'T HAVE A COPY. HAVE YOU FOUND ONE YET?
(KHUKRIT TURNS AND ASKS FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI).

CHATCHAI: IT IS ONLY A JOINT COMMUNIQUE.

KHUKRIT: IN REGARD TOSLOINT STATEMENTS ISSUED, WHEN THE PERSONS WHO ISSUED THEM ARE NO LONGER IN HIGH AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT POSITIONS, THEN THEY MIGHT NO LONGER BE IN FORCE. THE PERSONS WHO HAVE REPLACED THEM MIGHT ISSUE A NEW JOINT STATEMENT.

REPORTER: MAY I ASK YOU ANOTHER QUESTION CONCERNING THE THANAT KHOMAN-DEAN RUSK JOINT STATEMENT? IS IT YOUR VIEW THAT THE AGREEMENTS REACHED IN IT ARE NO LONGER IN FORCE NOW?

KHUKRIT: THIS IS A NEW GOVERNMENT ALTOGETHER. FURTHERMORE, IT WAS NOT A CONVENTION, NEITHER WAS IT A TREATY, AND NOR WAS IT APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT AT ALL. AT THAT TIME, THE PERSONS WHO ISSUED THAT JOINT STATEMENT WERE IN HIGH ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS TEMPORARILY ONLY IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. NEW PERSONS ARE IN THOSE POSITIONS NOW; THEREFORE THERE IS NO NECESSITY TO ADHERE TO IT. END EXCERPT.

2. COMMENT: THE ABOVE EXCHANGE PROBABLY INDICATES THAT UPI MAY HAVE MISTAKENLY APPLIED KHUKRIT'S REMARKS ON THE RUSK-THANAT DECLARATION TO ALL THAI-U.S. MILITARY AGREEMENTS. EMBASSY WILL COMMENT FURTHER IN SEPTTEL.
WHITEHOUSE

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